



**Minutes of the
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
February 11, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 6:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ruth Belikove, President
Mike Hartigan, Vice President
Alan Mitchell, Board Member
Gail Wetzork, Board Member

Absent: Karen Butter, Board Member

Staff: Jane Chisaki, Library Director
Marsha Merrick, Recording Secretary

CONSENT CALENDAR

An asterisk indicates items so enacted or adopted on the Consent Calendar.

- A. *Report from the Library Director Highlighting Activities for the Month of February 2009. Accepted.
- B. *Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board Meeting of January 14, 2009. Approved.
- C. *Library Services Report for the Month of December 2008. Accepted.
- D. *Financial Report Reflecting FY 2008-09 Expenditures by Fund through January 2009. Accepted.
- E. *Bills for Ratification for the Month of January 2009. Approved.

President Belikove inquired about the City budget meeting held the previous Saturday. Director Chisaki indicated she would be discussing this topic later in the meeting under Item 7. Director's Comments.

President Belikove asked for a motion to accept the Consent Calendar as presented. Member Mitchell so moved; Vice President Hartigan seconded the motion which carried by a 4-0 vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

Audience member Li Volin had tried to place a hold on a DVD and found it wasn't possible. Director Chisaki said the DVD collection is not big enough to support holds. This restriction also applies to magazines and video cassettes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Neighborhood Library Improvement Project (G. Wetzork)

Director Chisaki reported the NLIP team kick-off meeting was held on January 21, and a wish list was created. The architects had gone through ADA documents to determine what is required by law, as opposed to recommended, to bring everything up to standards. Alameda Architectural Preservation Society members had attended and were interested in the West End building being restored to its "former glory" to make it look like a 1930's-era library. Community meetings will be held at the branches (West End, March 10; Bay Farm Island, March 12) to gather input. Vice President Hartigan requested getting the meeting notes back in a much more responsive time; Chisaki will follow up with Noll & Tam. The next NLIP team meeting will be on March 4.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Collection Development Policy (J. Chisaki)

The draft policy had been included in the Board packets for review. Director Chisaki said that staff had been working on this for over a year, adding new sections such as graphic novels. Vice President Hartigan noted that the Request for Reconsideration of Materials was the only form attached to the policy, and wondered if there were other forms that should be included. Chisaki said no other forms exist in relation to this policy. Chisaki shared that she had spoken with Member Butter regarding the policy, and Butter had thought it was a very good, well-rounded document. Vice President Hartigan and Member Wetzork both thought it was very well done.

President Belikove asked for a motion to adopt the Collection Development policy. Member Wetzork so moved; Member Mitchell seconded the motion which carried by a 4-0 vote.

B. Art Exhibit Committee (R. Belikove)

President Belikove mentioned the art exhibit calendar in the Board packets that shows planned exhibits through the end of 2009. Belikove said the current exhibit of Asian artists work was exceptional, and there will be a reception on February 17 which will include a Chinese brush painting demonstration by Amy Gee. Belikove encouraged the Board members to attend the event. Belikove believes they now have a top notch committee, and gave a special thank you to Supervising Librarian, David Hall, for the many hours of his time he has given to make their efforts a success. The committee now meets on the second Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

C. Alameda Free Library Foundation (A. Mitchell)

Director Chisaki reported the Foundation had adopted their mission statement. The Library has received 50% of the proceeds from the Michael Pollan event and also the Waterbury donations to purchase children's picture books. The Foundation has been slow to get up new nameplates on the shelves and someone else is taking over that responsibility now. Chisaki has heard there may be an additional distribution from the Felker estate coming in which might be around \$200,000.

D. Friends of the Alameda Free Library (M. Lambert)

Marc Lambert reported that the Friends on-line edition of the newsletter had come out the previous week, and the print copy would be out in a day or two. The Café has netted about \$18,000 during the past two years they've been in business, and they will probably be asked for the start-up money back. The bookshelf sales in the Café have cleared \$2,400. The Café has paired up with Alameda High School to provide work experience for two special ed students; this is part of a state-wide workability program. Friends President Dorothy Fullerton is soliciting volunteers to try on-line book sales. Li Volin mentioned that she and Luzanne Engh went to the Northern California Friends and Foundation support group program and the speaker talked about fund-raising.

E. Patron suggestions/comments (Speak-Outs) and Library Director's response.

Director Chisaki said there were no speak-outs to report on this month.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Member Mitchell asked Director Chisaki if she ever spoke to community organizations. Chisaki replied that she has done so many times, most recently visiting the Rotary. She has an upcoming engagement at the Trinity Lutheran Church in March.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Director Chisaki and Marc Lambert had gone to Day in the District. Chisaki had spoken with Sandre Swanson, who was very interested in the Digital Storytelling program, and said he may contribute his own story. There was a very long wait until Loni Hancock's meeting at 4:00, but her representative was very generous with the time he gave the group. Chisaki felt they had made some very good points.

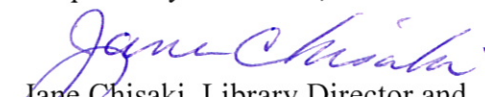
The City budget meeting held the previous Saturday was an informational meeting only. It explained our current financial status, and the City is not going bankrupt.

There is a new consumer products lead law that just went into effect which may have required that each and every children's book be tested; however, they have put a stay of one year on this part of the law. They now say they will only be concerned with books published before 1985.

ADJOURNMENT

President Belikove asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Member Wetzork so moved; Member Mitchell seconded the motion which carried by a 4-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,


Jane Chisaki, Library Director and
Secretary to the Library Board